

Art Unit: 1764

In claim 11, line 2, after the phrase "powder" inserted – further – and after the phrase "BaTiO₃," inserted – and --, and deleted ", stabilized or partially stabilized ZrO₂"; and

In claim 19, line 2, deleted "of an Al oxide" and in line ⁴ of the claim after the phrase "ceramic powder" inserted – with or without Al oxide --.

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11/2/07

Canceled claims 30-37.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art to Harris discloses Pd-Ag or Pd-Cu alloy membrane in a process for dehydrogenation of paraffins to monoolefins. The applied secondary reference to Takahashi discloses a supported palladium alloy membrane for hydrogen diffusion. However, neither reference discloses or suggests a hydrogen diffusion membrane containing a stabilized or partially stabilized ZrO₂ as claimed in the present invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to In Suk Bullock whose telephone number is 571-272-5954. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:00-2:30.